

## HB 5027 Cottage Food Production

To whom this may concern,

If there ever was a bill to roll back the overreach of government into the lives of citizens this bill is it. While well meaning, the current law prevents homeowners, families, and friends from sharing recipes, baking together, and selling their products easily to the general public.

The requirements to have separate kitchens, multiple wash basins, licenses, and other requirements for items like brownies is an affront to the freedom and individual liberty this country was founded upon.

It may be understandable for restaurants to pass inspections, most people have seen "Kitchen Nightmares" on television and been shocked at the level of filth. But to impose restaurant laws on the smallest of small businesses is detrimental to business startups as it discourages the citizens from even beginning to dream about baking from home to see if there is a market worth pursuing.

I have been to various "Farmer's Markets" around eastern CT. There are very few bakers. I know personally a great husband and wife team that make amazing breads. They are forced by regulation to rent a kitchen which due to time and cost constraints limits their production and therefore increases their prices. Being retired, they thought baking on the side would supplement their income, which it does, but it's minimal. The high cost of gas limits how far away they are willing to travel to sell their items as well. What this body needs to understand is that the high cost of living in this state encourages old "Yankee ingenuity" to find something to keep you busy in retirement and bring in some extra money. Not everyone wants to be a greeter at Walmart.

Please, I beg you all to use this bill as a platform to bring sanity back to what never should have been imposed to begin with. The state should be encouraging the public to go out and try to sell things made from home. The best way to do that is for government to step aside, let the people work from their own kitchens, eliminate regulation for all homemade items, and encourage the public enjoy "Made at home with love" in Connecticut.

Salvatore Nucifora